

# MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting  
Lansing, Michigan  
July 23, 2014

Pursuant to Section 31 of Act 327 of the Public Acts of 1945, the Commissioners of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission, created by said act, met at the Aeronautics Building, 2700 Port Lansing Road, Lansing, Michigan, on Wednesday, July 23, 2014, commencing at the hour of approximately 10:00 a.m.

## Members Present

Pete Kamarainen, Chairman  
Roger Salo, Vice Chairman  
J. David VanderVeen, Commissioner  
Rick Fiddler, Commissioner  
Russ Kavalhuna, Commissioner  
Laura Mester, Designee – MDOT  
BG Len Isabelle, Designee – MDMVA  
Capt. Mike Caldwell, Designee – MSP  
Scott Heather, Designee – MDNR  
Dave Brickey, Legal Counsel  
Mike Trout, Director

## Members Absent

## Staff Present

Dave Baker  
Judy Baker  
Tara Ball  
Matt Brinker  
Rick Carlson  
Kelly Crannell  
Erika Hanses  
Leanne Hengesbach  
Pauline Misjak  
Mark Noel  
Steve Schultz  
Mike Soper

## Also Present

Mike Frezell, MDOT, Office of Communications  
Joe Hass, Troy Oakland Pilots  
Eric Jaroach, Roscommon County Blodgett  
Memorial Airport  
Mark Johnson, Livingston County –  
Spencer J. Hardy  
Phil Johnson, Gerald R. Ford International Airport  
Kelly Jost, C&S Engineers, Inc.  
Keith Kaspari, Capital Region Airport Authority  
Jim Koslosky, Prein & Newhof  
Ron Lebbon, QoE Consulting  
Bob Leisenring, Mead & Hunt  
Kent Maurer, Jackson County – Reynolds Field  
Chase Mather, Amway Aviation  
John Mayfield, Federal Aviation Administration  
Steve Wellman, Jackson County – Reynolds Field  
Ciara Peterson, Amway Aviation



## I. OPENING REMARKS

The July 23, 2014 Michigan Aeronautics Commission (Commission) Meeting was called to order by Chairman Pete Kamarainen at 10:00 a.m.

Chairman Kamarainen welcomed all those present. He asked everyone to rise, and the Pledge of Allegiance was cited.

Roll call was taken. All were present.

## II. COMMISSION BUSINESS

- A. Chairman Kamarainen asked if there were any revisions to the minutes of the meeting on May 14, 2014. There were none. He entertained a motion and support to approve the minutes as written. The motion was moved by Commissioner Rick Fiddler and supported by Commissioner Dave VanderVeen to approve the minutes as written. **All voted in favor.**

- B. Chairman Kamarainen read the process for the election of Chairman and Vice Chairman for the next year.

In accordance with the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4.1, Chairman Kamarainen hereby appointed Commissioner Dave VanderVeen to serve with him as the nominating committee to recommend to the Commission, at the September 10, 2014 meeting, the persons for consideration for election to the Commission Chair and Vice Chair for 2014/2015. No motion is required for this action.

- C. Chairman Kamarainen asked Mr. Dave Baker to present the airport sponsor contracts.

1. Lenawee County Airport, Adrian
2. Gratiot Community Airport, Alma
3. Gratiot Community Airport, Alma
4. Huron County Memorial Airport, Bad Axe
5. James Clements Airport & S.P.B., Bay City
6. Antrim County Airport, Bellaire
7. Bois Blanc Island Airport, Bois Blanc Island
8. Wexford County Airport, Cadillac
9. Tuscola Area Airport, Caro
10. Branch County Memorial, Coldwater
11. Detroit Metro Wayne County, Detroit
12. Coleman A. Young Municipal, Detroit
13. Drummond Island Airport, Drummond Island
14. Fremont Municipal Airport, Fremont
15. Gladwin Zettel Memorial, Gladwin
16. Memorial Airpark, Grand Haven





17. Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids
18. Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids
19. Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids
20. Gerald R. Ford International Airport, Grand Rapids
21. Hastings City/Barry County Airport, Hastings
22. Roscommon County Blodgett Memorial, Houghton Lake
23. Livingston County-Spencer J. Hardy, Howell
24. Ionia County Airport, Ionia
25. Ford Airport, Iron Mountain Kingsford
26. Ford Airport, Iron Mountain Kingsford
27. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
28. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
29. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
30. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
31. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
32. Kalamazoo/Battle Creek International, Kalamazoo
33. Mackinac Island Airport, Mackinac Island
34. Schoolcraft County Airport, Manistique
35. Brooks Field, Marshall
36. Menominee-Marinette Twin County Airport, Menominee
37. Oscoda County Dennis Kauffman Memorial Airport, Mio
38. Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport, Mount Pleasant
39. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
40. Muskegon County Airport, Muskegon
41. Ray Community Airport, Ray
42. Presque Isle County/Rogers City Airport, Rogers City
43. Romeo State Airport, Romeo
44. Saginaw County H. W. Browne Airport, Saginaw
45. Saginaw County H. W. Browne Airport, Saginaw
46. Mackinac County Airport, Saint Ignace
47. Sandusky City Airport, Sandusky
48. Statewide-Local, Misc. Study 2014 PCI Surveys
49. Oakland/Troy Airport, Troy
50. White Cloud Airport, White Cloud
- Supplemental Transfers Requiring Action**
51. Capital Region International, Lansing
52. Greenville Municipal Airport, Greenville

Chairman Kamarainen asked if there were any further comments or questions on the 52 sponsor contracts. Hearing none, he entertained a motion and support to approve contract Nos. 1-48. The motion was moved by Vice Chairman Roger Salo and supported by Commissioner VanderVeen to approve the contracts. **All voted in favor.**

Chairman Kamarainen entertained a motion and support to approve contract No. 49, Oakland/Troy Airport, Troy. The motion was moved by Vice Chairman Salo and



supported by Commissioner Fiddler to approve the contract. This is voted on separately, as it poses a potential conflict of interest for Commissioner VanderVeen. **All voted in favor with Commissioner VanderVeen abstaining.**

Chairman Kamarainen entertained a motion and support to approve contract Nos. 50-52. The motion was moved by Vice Chairman Salo and supported by Commissioner Fiddler to approve the contracts. **All voted in favor.**

A list of the sponsor contracts can be viewed in full on the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Web page at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero) under QuickLinks.

Mr. Baker presented three additional supplemental transfers: Statewide Paint Marking Program, State/Local Airports; Schoolcraft County Airport, Manistique; and South Haven Area Regional Airport, South Haven. He explained the process for each transfer. **No Commission action is required.**

Chairman Kamarainen thanked Mr. Baker for his report.

D. Chairman Kamarainen asked Mr. Steve Schultz to present the contract renewals.

**Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS) Maintenance**

1. Huron County Memorial Airport, Bad Axe
2. Roben - Hood Airport, Big Rapids
3. Hillsdale Municipal Airport, Hillsdale
4. Schoolcraft County Airport, Manistique
5. Mason Jewett Field, Mason
6. Monroe Custer Airport, Monroe
7. Mt. Pleasant Municipal Airport, Mount Pleasant
8. Luce County Airport, Newberry
9. Kirsch Municipal Airport, Sturgis

**Weather Briefing System**

10. Ann Arbor Municipal Airport, Ann Arbor
11. Mackinac Island Airport, Mackinac Island

Mr. Schultz presented and provided information regarding the 11 renewals.

Chairman Kamarainen asked if there were any further comments or questions on the 11 contract renewals. Hearing none, he entertained a motion and support to approve the contracts. The motion was moved by Commissioner VanderVeen and supported by Vice Chairman Salo. **All voted in favor.**



- E. Chairman Kamarainen asked Director Trout to present the "Pure Michigan" promotional campaign

Before Director Trout presented, he recognized and thanked Steve Schultz, Tom Smith, and Mike Soper for the great work they do overseeing all weather systems. What they do is important and part of our goal to promote safety, and they do an outstanding job.

Director Trout began his report by referring to Exhibit E in the Commission books. After completing all grant requests under the Commission's FY14 Air Service Program, \$172,125 remain available under the program. Discussions with the Michigan Economic Development Corporation's (MEDC) Pure Michigan Office indicate that developing a statewide promotional campaign of Michigan's airports is possible with these funds.

Director Trout modified his request by asking the Commission to support and authorize the Office of Aeronautics to use up to \$150,000 to promote aviation and air service in the state of Michigan with MEDC and other partners. He stated the specifics of the campaign will be shared with the Commission as they become available.

The commissioners discussed and commented on a variety of ways to promote aviation throughout Michigan. Commissioner Russ Kavalhuna expressed his support in authorizing Director Trout's request and asked the Commission for their support as well. He suggested that if there is a remaining balance in September, the Commission should consider using those funds toward the campaign, as well.

Chairman Kamarainen asked if there were any further comments or questions regarding the proposed campaign. Hearing none, he entertained a motion and support to approve moving forward in developing a promotional campaign in an amount up to \$150,000. The motion was moved by Commissioner Kavalhuna and supported by Vice Chairman Salo. **All voted in favor.**

- F. Director Trout reported on the Proposed Amendment to the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Bylaws.

During the last meeting of the Commission's Executive Committee, Commissioner VanderVeen suggested that the Bylaws be amended to designate the Commission chair as the chairperson of the Executive Committee. The Bylaws currently state that the immediate past chair be the chairperson of the committee.

Article VI Section 6.1(a) states that the immediate past chair of the Commission will ordinarily serve as the chair of the Executive Committee. It is unclear how long and for what purpose the Bylaws designated the immediate past chair as chair of the Executive Committee. Discussion with staff and Executive Committee members has been unanimous as to the practicality of designating the current chair of the Commission as chair of the committee.

In addition, it seemed an appropriate time to clarify the responsibilities of the committee, thereby, adding “agenda items, and other issues.” See proposed amendments below.

## ARTICLE VI

### Standing Committees of the Commission

Section 6.1 (a). Executive Committee. This committee shall be composed of three commissioners, at least two of whom shall be appointive. The ~~immediate past chairperson~~ **CHAIR** of the Commission will ordinarily serve and act as presiding officer. ~~If there is no immediate past chairperson, the chairperson of the Commission shall designate the chairperson of the Executive Committee.~~ The committee is responsible for making recommendations to the Commission for special studies, **AGENDA ITEMS, AND OTHER ISSUES.**

According to Article XI of the Bylaws, amendments may be made “by a majority of the Commissioners after at least one regular meeting in advance to consider the proposed amendments in written form.” It is recommended that the Commission take the occasion of today’s meeting to discuss and deliberate this proposal and plan a final vote on the amendment at the September meeting of the Commission.

## III. REPORTS

### A. MAC Director’s Report

Director Trout began his report by providing updates on the following:

#### Legislation

The legislation process is at a standstill. There is a lot of hope for transportation in general. Groups throughout the state are focused on obtaining good and sound funding, not only for aviation but for all of transportation. Folks have become more aware of the needs of the rest of the department and understand that aviation plays a vital role in the transportation packages that are out there. Come November, there will be more discussion going on.

#### Budget

Director Trout stated that the Governor signed the budget for next year, and the Office of Aeronautics is in good shape for next year. Beyond next year, there may need to be harder choices to make. At this point, we do appreciate the support from the Governor and Legislature in recognizing our needs.

#### Wildly Important Goal (WIG)

Director Trout stated that the goal is to put in place a safety management system for Aero’s flight operations. The WIG team has been working consistently on this and is doing a great job. There is now an emergency plan in place. Also, the team will be working on a Gap analysis to see what kind of needs we have in terms of moving towards





obtaining IS-BAO certification. The team is well on its way in reaching their goal at the end of the year.

#### MDOT Hall of Honor

Director Trout spoke about the Hall of Honor located in the Van Wagoner Building, which recognizes transportation officials within and outside of the department that have been recognized for their contributions. This year, MDOT's Director is accepting nominations. The Office of Aeronautics will be submitting a nomination – Bill Gehman, a former Director of MDOT's Bureau of Aeronautics. However, if there are other nominations people wish to submit, please contact the Office of Aeronautics.

#### MAC Awards

Director Trout spoke about MAC awards (Awards of Excellence) to be presented during the September Commission meeting. There is an individual and a group category. He asked that the commissioners please contact him if they would like to nominate someone.

#### Commission Updates

To update the commissioners regarding Office of Aeronautics activities and accomplishments, an e-mail will be sent bi-weekly. Director Trout asked that the commissioners please feel free to contact the office, if they ever have questions about the information being sent to them.

#### Aero Mobile App

Director Trout spoke about the Aero Mobile App (Airport Directory) reminding folks to download, if they haven't already. It is very easy to do. The app is getting some use – Apple downloads: 446; Android downloads: 178. He thanked Chip Kraus and Mark Grennell for doing an outstanding job in seeing the project through. He also thanked Commissioner Laura Mester for her support on the project, as well as Director Steudle.

#### MDOT Five Year Program

Director Trout explained the process for the Five Year Program, which is updated annually. There are different elements to the program. The first thing that is usually done is looking at where the money is coming from, and we are currently in that process. Director Trout stated that he would like to include the Commission in any feedback they may be able to provide in terms of making the document more robust. It is a multi-modal plan. It includes aviation, rail, all of the modes. It's all about moving people and goods, supporting our strategic objectives, and includes priorities, performance measures, and system conditions.

#### Aeronautics Five Year Program

Director Trout stated that the Aeronautics Five Year Plan has consistently been the Airport Capital Improvement Plan, an investment plan that shows the proposed funding and projects being proposed at airports over a five year period. An estimated \$750 million investment has been identified for that five year plan (\$150 million annually). This, however, creates a shortfall of \$300 million over the five year period (\$60 million



annually). The five year program includes both revenue assumptions and investment strategies. MDOT's plan includes these elements, and the associated Aeronautics portion is proposed as follows:

#### Revenue Assumptions

Director Trout stated that what is being proposed and presented at this point are revenue assumptions based on what we know today.

- Declining Excise Fuel Taxes
  - Fewer gallons sold
  - 3 cents in 1929 should be 42 cents in 2014
- Increased ASAP Bond Debt Service
- Uncertain Federal Program
  - State committed to match available federal aid
- Anticipated Revenues (5 years)

- Federal	\$430 M
- State	10 M
- Local	<u>10 M</u>
- Total	\$450 Million

#### Investment Strategy

Director Trout stated that our investment strategies based on the revenue assumptions are as follows:

- Address Michigan Airport System Plan Goals (Asset Management)
  - Reduce system and facility deficiencies
- Preservation of Critical Infrastructure
  - Pavements, Nav aids, Airspace
- Maximize Federal Funds
  - Leverage state, local, and private funding
- Support Job Growth and Economic Development
  - Freight and Logistics
  - Maintenance

#### State of Michigan Service Awards

Director Trout recognized and congratulated the following Aero employees:

- Steve Schultz, Supervisor, Electronic Facilities Unit – 30 years of service.
- Leanne Hengesbach, Financial Analyst, Fiscal Coordination Unit – 35 years of service.

#### Simply Super Service Award

Director Trout recognized Project Manager Kelly Crannell for receiving a 'Simply Super Service' award for the outstanding customer service she continues to provide to her airports.

New Student Assistant Director Trout introduced Erika Hanses as Aero's new student assistant. She is replacing Hilary Vanderstow who has accepted a full-time position with





the Department of Treasury. Erika will be attending Lansing Community College in the fall.

Director Trout recognized Mark Noel and his staff for their great work on the environmental assessment for Ann Arbor Municipal Airport. After many years of working on this project, the document is now complete. The effort that went into this project is phenomenal. He thanked everyone for their dedication and an outstanding job.

Chairman Kamarainen thanked Director Trout for his report.

Director Trout's report can be viewed in full on the Michigan Aeronautics Commission Web page at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero) under QuickLinks.

- B. Chairman Kamarainen asked Vice Chairman Salo to give his report on the General Aviation Committee.

Vice Chairman Salo reported that the General Aviation Committee met on June 18. The group continued the discussion regarding areas where the committee could best focus their efforts. A sub group of Brad Frederick, Bryan Budds, and Rick Hammond will be looking at what other states have tried regarding the formation of a statewide pilot association and its potential benefits. It was also reported that North Fox Island Airport should be opening soon. The committee also discussed ways it could strengthen support for activities such as local Dawn Patrols and the Aeronautics Open House. The group is planning to hear a report on general aviation trends from Commissioner VanderVeen during its next meeting scheduled for August 20.

Chairman Kamarainen thanked Vice Chairman Salo for his report.

- C. Chairman Kamarainen asked Commissioner Kavalhuna to give his report on the Air Service Committee.

Commissioner Kavalhuna reported that the Air Service Committee received notice that Trillion Aviation signed a two-year contract to provide air service development assistance to the committee and Aero staff. Following the commission meeting, the committee will hold a working lunch with Mr. Mike Bown of Trillion Aviation to kick off efforts to update MDOT's Policy Plan for Michigan Air Service.

Chairman Kamarainen thanked Commissioner Kavalhuna for his report.

#### **IV. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

Chairman Kamarainen asked if any of the commissioners would like to make a comment.

Rick Fiddler inquired about the status of meteorological evaluation towers in our support for these towers to be properly marked and/or lit. Director Trout explained that he believes that



one of the committees will be considering recommended legislation for changes that need to be made in regard to these towers being marked appropriately.

Director Trout recognized and thanked Pauline Misjak for an outstanding job in putting together the annual update of the Michigan Aeronautics Commission. The report is available on-line on the Michigan Aeronautics Commission page under "Commission Activity Reports."

There were no other comments.

## V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Kamarainen asked if anyone would like to make a public comment.

Mr. Joe Hass, Troy Oakland Pilots, expressed his desire to see the PAPI project complete at Oakland/Troy Airport in order to have night time approach for the upcoming fall and winter.

Mr. Hass spoke about FAA's Interpretive Ruling dated June 25, 2014, concerning model aircraft. He stated that the Academy of Model Aeronautics is addressing issues relating to broad definitions within the ruling.

Mr. Hass spoke about STEM programs in which his son is involved. One in particular, he was one of 18 pilots from around the world invited to the Extreme Flight Championships in Muncie, Indiana.

Mr. Hass promoted National Model Aviation Day, scheduled for Saturday, August 16, 2014, 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m., Ultimate Soccer Arenas, Pontiac, Michigan.

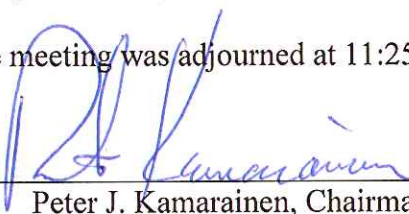
Chairman Kamarainen thanked Mr. Hass for his comments.


There were no other public comments.

## CLOSING

The next Michigan Aeronautics Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 10, 2014, 10:30 a.m., at Mission Point Resort on Mackinac Island. The meeting will take place during the Michigan Association of Airport Executives Fall Conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

  
Peter J. Kamarainen, Chairman

  
Michael G. Trout, Director

Dated: 9-10-14

